(a) how many sittings of Lok Adalats were held in Tripura during 1988 and 1989 and the total amount of money spent on holding the Lok Adalats ; and

(b) whether Government are aware that corrupt practices were indulged in holding Lok Adalat at Bishalghar Block by the Commandant T.S.R. who was associated with organising this Adalat ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI) : (a) and (b) The requisite information is being collected from the Tripura Legal Aid and Advice Board and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Financing of Handloom Industry in the Private Sector by Small Industries Development Bank

1906. SHRI KOTAIAH PRAGADA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Small Industries Development Bank under the Industrial Development Bank of India proposes to undertake financing of the handloom industry in the private sector ; and

(b) if so, what are the norms laid down for the purpose ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI) : (a) and (b) The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has reported that term loans granted by eligible institutions/banks for the purpose of setting up of handloom and hand-operated weaving, reeling and spinning units are eligible for refinance assistance from it under its Composite Loan Scheme.

Assistance under the Composite Loan Scheme is generally extended as composite term loan for equipment finance or working capital or both. Artisans, village and cottage industries and SSIs in the tiny sector are assisted under this scheme. Loans upto Rs. 50,000 are granted under the scheme at a very concessional rate of interest without insisting for the promoter's contribution.

Corruption in Vijaya Bank

1907. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Business Standard of January 12, 1990 regarding corruption in Vijaya Bank ; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken against the Chairman of the Vijaya Bank ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has investigated the matter. Further action is under consideration of RBI.

Use of jute bags in fertilizer and cement industries

1908. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government is importing jute from foreign countries ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the guidelines have been issued to use 100% jute bags for fertilizer and cement industries ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that 150 plastic units are sick due to the above policy in Gujarat ; and

(d) what are the reasons for not allowing plastic bags for fertilizer and cement industries ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) Permission for import of raw jute is available to all exporters of jute goods under the Advance Licensing Scheme for meeting their specific requirement of raw materials at Internationally competitive rates for fulfilment of their export commitments.

(b) In terms of the Reservation Orders issued by the Government under the provisions of the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 all fertilizer factories are required to pack their entire urea production in jute bags only. In the case of the cement units the Reservation Orders stipulate that the unit located within 1200 kilometres from Calcutta should pack 70% of their production in jute bags and those located beyond 1200 kilometres should pack 65% of their production in jute bags.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Government have given in terms of the Reservation Orders sufficient scope for the plastic bags sector to serve the interests of the cement and fertilizer industries by having a reasonably legitimate share of their production. In the case of the fertilizer sector while urea packaging is to be done in jute bags only all other varieties have been left free for being packed in any bag.

Demand for Pig Iron in Gujarat

1909. SHRI ANANTRAY DEV SHANKER DAVE : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there are 2663 small foundry units in Gujarat ;

(b) what is the actual demand for pig iron in Gujarat ;

(c) what was the quantity allotted to Gujarat during the last six months and what was the actual supply ; and

(d) what were the reasons for short supply of pig iron ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Statewise demand is not assessed.

(c) Allotments are not made Statewise. Actual supplies of Pig Iron to the State of Gujarat by SAIL during six month period January—June, 1990 was 57,400 tonnes.

(d) Does not arise. Actual users may avail themselves of OGL import of Pig Iron.

Enquiry against officials working in the Ministry of Commerce and its undertakings

1910. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of disciplinary proceedings being held against officials working in his Ministry and other offices/undertakings under his Ministry as on 31st July, 1990 with dates since when these have been pending, case-wise ;

(b) the number of cases out of them in which retired Government officials have been engaged as Enquiry Officers with dates of their engagement case-wise ;